

Message Text

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11

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 SAM-01 DHA-02 /094 W
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R 232352Z APR 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7079

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS USUN 1737

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNSC, PT

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE TIMOR - U.S. EXPLANATION OF VOTE IN

UN SECURITY COUNCIL APRIL 22

REF: USUN 1712

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE STATEMENT IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL,
BY AMBASSADOR SHERER IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE APRIL
22, 1976 VOTING ON THE RESOLUTION ON THE SITUATION IN TIMOR:

QUOTE THE UNITED STATES VOTED IN FAVOR OF THE AMENDMENT
SUBMITTED BY JAPAN BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE MADE EXPLICIT
THAT THE COUNCIL RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANT STATEMENT OF THE
DISTINGUISHED REPRESENTATIVE OF INDONESIA THAT SOME FORCES
HAVE BEEN AND ARE BEING WITHDRAWN.

IN THE UNITED STATES VIEW THERE WERE ONLY TWO USEFUL PURPOSES
THAT A RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT COULD ACCOMPLISH AT THIS
TIME. ONE WOULD BE TO ENCOURAGE AND ENHANCE THE COOPERATION
OF ALL CONCERNED AND THE OTHER WOULD BE TO EXTEND THE MANDATE
OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL. IN LIGHT OF THE DECISION OF THE
COUNCIL NOT TO ACCEPT THE CONSTRUCTIVE JAPANESE PROPOSAL,
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A REFUSAL EXPLICITLY TO NOTE STEPS TO COMPLY WITH EXISTING

RESOLUTIONS, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT A SPIRIT OF COOPERATION HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED. SO FAR AS THE MANDATE OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL IS CONCERNED, WE DO NOT BELIEVE A NEW RESOLUTION WAS NEEDED IN ORDER TO KEEP THAT MANDATE IN BEING. HIS LAUDATORY EFFORTS AND THOSE OF HIS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE COULD AND SHOULD BE CONTINUED IN ANY EVENT. THEIR WORK DEMONSTRATES ONCE AGAIN THE INDISPENSABLE ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

IN DECLINING TO VOTE FOR THIS RESOLUTION BECAUSE WE DO NOT SEE ANY ESSENTIAL PURPOSE SERVED BY IT IN ITS PRESENT FORM, WE ARE NOT WAVERING IN OUR SUPPORT OF THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF EAST TIMOR OR OF ANY PEOPLE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD FOR EQUAL RIGHTS AND SELF-DETERMINATION. UNQUOTE
SHERER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS, SELFDETERMINATION, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, MEETING VOTING RECORDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN01737
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760156-0228
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760427/aaaaawjt.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 AUG 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE TIMOR - U.S. EXPLANATION OF VOTE IN UN SECURITY COUNCIL APRIL 22
TAGS: PFOR, PT, PO, ID, UNSC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006